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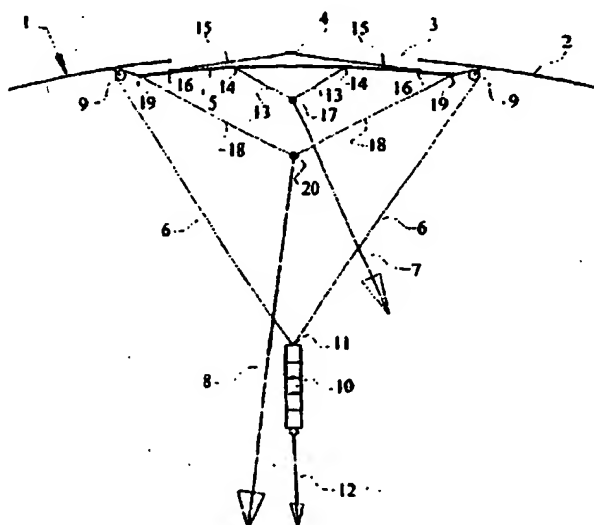
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(54) Abstract Title

Hot air balloon vent

(57) There are two ways to control the operation of vent valve (5) closing aperture (3) at the top of envelope (2) of hot air balloon (1). First control means normally extends valve panel (5) via a plurality of control lines (6) extending radially from its perimeter so as to close valve (5). This control means also includes a plurality of parachute shroud lines (18) conjoined at (19) to lines (6) at the perimeter of valve (5). Lines (18) join at central claw (20) from which control line (8) extends to the pilot for controlled slower release of gas during flight by lowering of valve (5) away from envelope (2). For rapid venting of gas, as may be needed on landing, the pilot pulls on line (7) of second control means. This leads to a plurality of control lines (13) attached to the underside of valve (5). Pulling on line (7) contracts or gathers valve (5) radially inwardly and downwardly to almost completely uncover aperture (3).



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